

1. An apparatus for sending a message to a wireless device over a wireless network, the apparatus comprising:

a gateway for receiving the message transmitted over an external network in communication with the gateway, <sup>Internet</sup> the message including a delivery instruction and delivery information indicating a time at which the message is to be delivered to the wireless device, for storing the message, and for carrying out the delivery instruction by delivering the message at the time indicated by the delivery information.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the gateway comprises a database for storing the message.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the database has a directory structure for associating the wireless device with the message.

4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the gateway flags the message in the database with the delivery information and executes a protocol to determine when the flagged delivery information matches a time indicated by the gateway.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the delivery information indicates a length of time before the gateway carries out the delivery instruction.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the delivery information indicates a date and time for the gateway to carry out the delivery instruction.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the message is a text message.

8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the delivery instruction and delivery information are included in the text message.

9. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the delivery instruction and delivery information are in a header of the message.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the external network is the Internet.

11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the wireless device is a pager.

12. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the gateway deletes the stored message before the message is delivered.

13. A method of sending a message to a user of a wireless device over a wireless network, the method comprising:

sending a message including a delivery instruction and delivery information indicating a time at which the message is to be delivered to the wireless device;

storing the message; and

delivering the message to the wireless device over the wireless network at the time indicated by the delivery information.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein message is a text message, and the delivery instruction and delivery information are included in the message.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the delivery instruction and delivery information are in a header of the message.

16. The method of claim 13, further comprising  
flagging the message with the delivery information; and  
carrying out the delivery instruction by comparing the flagged message with a time indicated by the wireless system.

17. The method of claim 13, further comprising  
deleting the stored message before the message is delivered.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein the message is sent over the Internet through a connection to the wireless network.

19. The method of claim 13 further comprising  
canceling the delivery instruction before the message is delivered.

20. The method of claim 13 further comprising  
modifying the delivery information before the message is delivered.